की जाने वाली लघु यूनिटों के माध्यम से सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों को सप्लाई किया जा सके।

ब्याज में राहत :–राज्य/जिला सैनिक बोर्डों द्वारा अपनी कल्याण निधियों (संयोजित राज्य विशेष निधि) के अन्तर्गत लघु उद्योग/कृषि पर आधारित उद्योग स्थापित करने के लिए भूतपूर्व सैनिकों को 50,000 रुपए तक लिए गए बैंक ऋणों पर ब्याज में राहत दी जाती है। उन भूतपूर्व सैनिक अफसरों पर भी यह योजना लागू होती है जिनकी मासिक आय 1500/– रुपए से अधिक न हो।

भूतपूर्व सैनिक यूनिटों को राहत :– इस योजना के अन्तर्गत किसी भूतपूर्व सैनिक उद्यम द्वारा रक्षा मंत्रालय को सप्लाई की जाने वाली किसी मद पर उसकी कीमत के अनुसार 10% की सहायता दी जाती है लेकिन इसकी केवल पांच वर्ष के लिए अधिकतम सीमा 50,000/– रुपए प्रति वर्ष होगी।

Centre for wetlands and coastal ecosystem

970. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Centre for wetlands and coastal ecosystem, at the Institute for Coastal and Offshore Research (INCOR) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the amount earmarked for that purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Government have no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Weightage to ad-hoc service in fixing seniority of officers

971. SHRI N. RAJANGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that great injustice is done to *ad-hoc* employees of the Central Government who after putting in about five-six years of *ad-hoc* service, are later regularised after qualifying the specified examination;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give due weightage to the *ad-hoc* period of service for the purpose of seniority and pay fixation; and

(c) what steps are being taken to remove this anomaly and give these employees their due share?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Special qualifying Examinations have been held in the past for *ad hoc* LACs/Stenographers to give them an opportunity to get themselves appointed on regular basis. This is in itself a concession to such employees, as recruitment to posts of LDC/Stenographer is made through open Competitive Examinations held by the Staff Selection Commission. Inasmuch as the seniority of those recruited through the open competitive examinations is regulated with reference to their positions in the merit list of the Examinations in which they appeared and qualified, there is no anomaly in regulating the seniority of *ad hoc* LDCs/Stenographers, on their appointment on regular basis with reference to the Special Qualifying Examinations in which they appeared and qualified. However, *ad-hoc* LDCs/Stenographers, on their appointment on regular basis after passing the Special Qualifying Examination, are given